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SUCCESSSES IN USSR FOREST PLANTING PROGRAM;
INCREASES IN MECHANIZED LOGGING;
CRITICISM OF SOVIET TIMBER INDUSTRY

FOREST PLANTING IN EUROPEAN USSR -- Moscow, Lesnoye Khozyaystvo, No 6, 52

Foresters of the steppe and forest steppe regions of the European USSR in-
 creased the planted area by 417,000 hectares in 1952. They fulfilled the 1952
 tree-planting plan in this area 97 percent in the spring period.

SHARP INCREASE IN MECHANIZED LOGGING -- Moscow, Lesnaya Promyshlennost',
29 Jun 52

The timber industry has been converted into a highly mechanized branch of
 the national economy. During the postwar period, the capacity of logging equip-
 ment in the USSR increased four times and the energy supply per permanent worker
 almost two times. At the beginning of 1952, each worker had at his disposal 6.31
 horsepower of mechanized equipment.

SHELTER BELT PLANTING EXPANDS -- Moscow, Lesnoye Khozyaystvo, No 6, 52

In the past 3 years, forestry managements and shelter belt stations of the
 Ministry of Forestry USSR have planted trees on an area of 2,624,000 hectares;
 1,033,200 hectares of this area represent shelter belts plantings in steppe and
 forest steppe regions of the European USSR, distributed as follows (in hectares):

State shelter belt plantings	45,300
Oak plantings of industrial importance	56,200
Gully and ravine plantings	216,000
State forest fund plantings	495,300
Stabilization of sand plantings	220,300

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According to the 15-year plan, eight large state shelter belts are to be finished by 1965. However, 41.3 percent of the state shelter belts planned have been completed. Specifically, 87 percent of the trees and bushes planned have been planted in the Belgorod-Don and Kamyshin-Stalingrad state shelter belts and 46 percent in the Chapayevsk-Vladimirovka state shelter belt. There is reason to suppose that the planting of the Belgorod-Don and Kamyshin-Stalingrad state shelter belts will be completed in 1952.

The fulfillment of the shelter belt plan was entrusted to 200 shelter belt stations, 150 state tree nurseries, 39 steppe forestry managements, and 165 forestry management subdivisions which were created in the period 1949 - 1951, and to 500 forestry managements organized in the steppe and forest steppe regions before 1948 which also took part in this work.

In 1949 - 1951, 19,598 hectares (110 percent of the plan figure) were devoted to growing trees and bushes in steppe and forest steppe nurseries of the Ministry of Forestry USSR, and about 14 billion seedlings were grown. In 1949 - 1951, 127,000 tons of various tree seeds (135 percent of the plan figure) were procured; and 595 million seedlings and 25,000 tons of tree and bush seeds were given to sovkhozes and kolkhozes of the steppe and forest steppe regions in the 3-year period.

Work for increasing the harvest of seeds was conducted in an area of about 300,000 hectares. Soviet foresters achieved good results in the fight with forest pests and insects through the use of chemicals applied by airplane. The use of DDT powder and hexachloran, together with organizational and other forestry measures, made possible an increase of the acorn harvest in the oak forests of Voronezh, Rostov, Stalingrad, and Astrakhan' oblasts; about 14,000 tons of acorns were harvested in these oblasts in 1951 as compared with 1,700 tons in 1950. This made it possible to create a seed fund in the forestry managements, shelter belt stations, and nurseries of the above oblasts, fully meeting all their requirements.

Much attention is paid to oak in shelter belt planting, since it is considered the most stable and long-lived species for steppe forestry. Oak predominated in state shelter belts, amounting to 82 percent of the planted area; oak was also used in 72 percent of the planted area in gullies and ravines. In row planting, 52 percent pine has been introduced as the main species, along with 27 percent oak.

The survival rate of trees planted in 1949 - 1951 in state shelter belts, sands, ravines, and gullies amounted to 71-72 percent. Of the area planted according to the nest method, 54 percent had a satisfactory survival rate (5,000 or more oaks per hectare), 21 percent needed additional planting (2,500-5,000 oaks per hectare), 14 percent was heavily decimated (less than 2,500 oaks per hectare) and needed considerable additional planting, and 11 percent needed replanting.

AWARDS TO OUTSTANDING WORKERS -- Moscow, Lesnaya Promyshlennost', 15 Jun 52

N. M. Shvernik, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, today conferred orders and medals on a group of supervisory workers of the Timber Ministries USSR and RSFSR for long and faithful service. Awards were given to the following: G. M. Orlov, Minister of Timber Industry USSR, and his deputies F. D. Baraksin, B. N. Zmeyev, A. I. Lisitsyn, I. P. Men'shikov, and K. M. Pantin; A. V. Kudryavtsev, Minister of Timber Industry RSFSR, and his deputies S. P. Nikiforov, and A. G. Yefimov.

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74 PERCENT RISE IN TIMBER OUTPUT -- Petrozavodsk, Leninskoye Znamya, 18 May 52

In 1951, the Karelo-Finnish SSR produced 74 percent more timber than it felled and hauled in 1946. In 1946, only 3.1 percent of all timber was felled with electric saws; in 1951, this figure had risen to 57.5 percent. In 1952, 69.6 percent of all skidding is to be mechanized.

TEST NEW ALL-PURPOSE TIMBER MACHINE -- Petrozavodsk, Leninskoye Znamya, 18 Jun 52

The timber industry has long needed an all-purpose machine which would fell and limb the tree and skid and buck the truck.

Such a machine has been designed by the Leningrad Forestry Engineering Academy and is undergoing production tests. The disadvantage of such a machine is that it saws the tree without undercutting. As a result, felled trees often fall away from the machine, complicating the matter of skidding the trunk to an upper landing.

N. I. Sergeichev, an engineer of the Karelo-Finnish Affiliate of the Central Scientific Research Institute for the Mechanization and Electrification of the Timber Industry, has designed a new timber combine. This machine will undercut the tree before sawing, causing the truck to fall in correct position.

Engineer Sergeichev is now completing a blueprint of the new timber combine; after a machine has been built, it will be sent to one of the timber enterprises of the republic for production trials.

POOR MACHINE UTILIZATION, TRAINING LACK HAMPER TIMBER INDUSTRY -- Petrozavodsk, Leninskoye Znamya, 18 Jun 52

An analysis of machine utilization in timber operations of the Karelo-Finnish SSR in 1951 indicated that only 63 percent of available trucks were used. In other words, more than a third of the trucks were inactive the whole year. Utilization of skidding tractors, steam engines, and mobile electric power plants was even worse. Only 51 percent of the tractors, 48 percent of the steam engines, and 42 percent of the electric power plants were utilized.

Idle machines most often are the result of poor technical direction at logging centers and repair shops. More than ever, it is intolerable for leaders of the ministry, trusts, and many enterprises to underestimate the value of cadre training and the increase of worker skills. This assertion is easily confirmed by examples. The demand for skilled timber workers is constantly growing, but the ministry trained 420 fewer skilled workers in 1951 than in 1950. It also trained 240 fewer engineering and technical workers than in 1950.

Cadre training showed no improvement in 1952. The plan for brigadier training, including those now studying, was fulfilled by only 23 percent in 5.5 months of 1952. The 1952 plan for training of automechanics was fulfilled by only 30 percent; for electric saw operators, by 27 percent; and for winch operators, by 5 percent.

The problem of increasing the skills of timber production workers and supervisors presents an even worse state of affairs. Two hundred brigade leaders should attend courses for raising their qualifications, but only nine men are studying. Many timber managements still have not established Stakhanovite schools.

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A considerable number of logging foremen have no actual specialized training and need thorough retraining. Nevertheless, the Petrozavodsk one-year foremen's school is only 61 percent filled. Only 40 men are studying courses for raising the qualifications of foremen, while at least 250 should attend. Although 25 norm setters are needed, only one is in training. While 150 inspectors should be in training, instruction courses for them are generally not organized.

AERIAL SEEDING ACCELERATES PLANTING -- Petrozavodsk, Leninskoye Znamya, 16 May 52

Aerial seeding of pine is expanding in the northern USSR. According to the Ministry of Forestry USSR, aerial seeding in 1952 will be carried out in Arkhangel'sk and Vologda oblasts, the Karelo-Finnish SSR, and the Komi ASSR over an area three times as large as in 1951. Results in 1951 have shown that aerial seeding of cut-over areas is 10-15 times faster than ordinary seeding methods and saves materials and labor.

NEW MINISTER OF TIMBER INDUSTRY KARELO-FINNISH SSR -- Petrozavodsk, Leninskoye Znamya, 31 May 52

In a ukase dated 31 May 1952, Ivan Matveyevich Novikov was appointed Minister of Timber Industry Karelo-Finnish SSR by the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet Karelo-Finnish SSR. He replaces N. Shkol'nikov, who was last identified in the press available in FND in Leninskoye Znamya, 20 April 1952.

ESTONIAN LOGGERS PROMISE TO EXCEED PLAN -- Moscow, Pravda, 9 Jun 52

In a letter to Stalin, the enterprises of the Ministry of Timber Industry Estonian SSR pledged to fulfill the 1952 plan by 21 December and to haul 35,000 cubic meters of industrial timber above the plan.

LATVIAN LOGGERS PLEDGE TO BEAT PLAN -- Riga, Sovetskaya Latvya, 22 May 52

The enterprises of the Ministry of Timber Industry Latvian SSR pledged to meet the 1952 plan ahead of schedule and to produce 15 million rubles' worth of products in excess of plan, including 10,000 cubic meters of lumber.

AWARDED ORDER OF RED BANNER -- Riga, Sovetskaya Latvya, 6 Jun 52

By ukase of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet USSR, the Order of the Red Banner was awarded to V. V. Dem'yanov, Deputy Minister of Timber Industry Latvian SSR, for long and faithful service.

MECHANIZATION RISES IN BELORUSSIAN SSR -- Petrozavodsk, Leninskoye Znamya, 27 Jun 52

The timber managements of Belorussia are being equipped with new machines. Since the beginning of the year, they have received 30 mobile electric power plants, 180 electric saws, and many other machines. Mechanization of timber felling and haulage is 15 percent higher in 1952 than in 1951.

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UKRAINE EXCEEDS PLANTING PLAN -- Moscow, Les i Step', No 6, 52

About 198,000 hectares of forest (112.5 percent of plan) were planted in the Ukraine in 1951. Forestry managements and shelter belt stations planted almost 80,000 hectares of forest in kolkhozes.

Over 195,000 hectares of forests are to be planted in 1952, including 95,000 hectares in kolkhozes. About 2,218,000 hectares of planted areas are to be tended.

WIDE VARIETY OF VALUABLE TREES IN ADZHAR ASSR -- Moscow, Lesnoye Khozyaystvo No 6, 52

Adzhar ASSR is located in the southwestern part of the Georgian SSR. Its total forested area amounts to 169,000 hectares, 92,000 of which are in the state forest fund and the rest belong to kolkhozes. The mountainous and very broken terrain hampers the cultivation and care of forests, part of which grow on mountains 2,200 meters above sea level.

The subtropical climate facilitates the growth of such valuable trees as tung, tangerine, orange, Japanese persimmon, walnut, camphor, and cinchona trees.

Due to a wide range of climate, the Adzhar forests have a variety of species. In the well-tended planted areas, there grow black alder, ash, edible chestnut, white beech, field elm, small-leaf linden, wild persimmon, oak, box tree, yew tree, warty birch, spruce, fir, common pine, and many other species. Evergreen cherry laurel, reaching 8-10 meters in height, rhododendrons, and other plants grow in the underbrush.

TIMBER-FLOATING PLAN FULFILLED -- Petrozavodsk, Leninskoye Znamya, 13 Jun 52

Loggers of the southern Urals have fulfilled the timber-floating plan. They floated 30 percent more timber in 1952 than in 1951.

INCREASE TIMBER FLOATING ON THE YENISEY -- Leningrad, Leningradskaya Pravda, 1 Jun 52

In 1952, 400,000 more cubic meters of timber will be floated on the Yenisey than in 1951. Up to 40 percent of all timber is to be dispatched in large rafts.

FLOTAGE GOAL SET FOR TATAR ASSR -- Moscow, Lesnaya Promyshlennost', 12 Jun 52

In 1952, the timber floaters of the Tatar ASSR have the task of dispatching by free floating, rafts, and ships more than half a million cubic meters of timber.

NEW TASKS FOR FAR EAST TIMBER WORKERS -- Moscow, Lesnaya Promyshlennost', 12 Jun 52

In the coming 1952 - 1953 fall-winter season, the loggers of Khabarovsk Kray in the Far East have the task of floating and hauling 500,000 more cubic meters of timber than in 1951.

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RAFT CARAVANS REACH STALINGRAD -- Moscow, Pravda, 19 Jun 52

The steamship Valeriy Chkalov has reached Stalingrad with a huge multiple-raft caravan of over 84,000 cubic meters of timber.

The steam tug Pamyat' Kotovskogo has also arrived with a 52,000-cubic-meter raft of timber.

TIMBER TO BE SHIPPED TO GREAT CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS -- Moscow, Lesnaya Promyshlennost', 1 May 52

During the 1952 navigation season, the Koz'modem'yansk Floating Office (Mari ASSR) of the Gor'klesoplav (Gor'kiy Timber Floating) Trust will dispatch more than 600,000 cubic meters of timber to the Stalingrad and Kuybyshev hydroelectric, Volga-Don Canal, and Main Turkmen Canal construction projects. This timber will be formed into rafts containing 20,000-25,000 cubic meters each at the Koz'modem'yansk Roadstead.

NEW-TYPE CANAL RAFTS -- Tallin, Sovetskaya Estoniya, 8 Jun 52

The Volga-Kama Affiliate of the Central Scientific-Research Institute of Timber Floating has developed an original type of raft capable of navigating the Volga-Don Canal.

The Ministry of Timber Industry USSR stated that these rafts are constructed on an entirely new principle. Just before entering the locks, they break up into separate sections, corresponding to lock clearances. The rafts are equipped with floating booms to protect them against storms when they move through Tsimlyansk reservoir. This makes it possible to forward timber to its destination without loss.

KAMA CELLULOSE-PAPER WORKERS PROMISE TO EXCEED PLAN -- Moscow, Lesnaya Promyshlennost', 5 Jun 52

The workers of the Kama Cellulose-Paper Combine pledged to produce in excess of the 1952 plan 6,000 tons of paper, 5,000 tons of cellulose, 3,000 tons of wood pulp, 4 million students' notebooks, and 10,000 decaliters of alcohol.

UDMURT ASSR WORKERS PLEDGE TO TOP PLAN -- Moscow, Pravda, 30 May 52

Timber industry enterprises of Udmurt ASSR pledged to exceed the 1952 felling plan by not less than 50,000 cubic meters of timber. They also pledged to produce 2,000 square meters of prefabricated houses in excess of the 1952 plan.

NEW STATE SHELTER BELTS TO BE PLANTED -- Tbilisi, Zarya Vostoka, 17 Jun 52

The Ministry of Forestry USSR has decided to create two state shelter belts in the Kulundinskaya Steppe, Altay Kray, one between Rubtsovsk and Slavgorod, a distance of 287 kilometers and the other between Aleysk and Velelovka, a distance of 297 kilometers. Each shelter belt will consist of three parallel strips 60 meters wide, with 300 to 400-meter spaces between them. They will be intersected at right angles every kilometer by forest strips.

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SPECIAL SHELTER BELT SERVICE FOR THE TURKSIB RAILROAD -- Moscow, Pravda, 14 Jun 52

A special shelter belt service has been created to plant 100-meter-long shelter belts along the Turksib Railroad.

RAILROAD PLANTING PLAN EXCEEDED -- Alma-Ata, Kazakhstanskaya Pravda, 10 Jun 52

Shelter belt station workers have exceeded the 1952 shelter belt planting plan along the Turksib Railroad. New plantings cover a stretch of over 30 kilometers.

The workers are carefully tending the young plants and are preparing the ground for fall planting. The total length of shelter belts along the rail line now exceeds 330 kilometers.

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